

Application No. 10/783,371  
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus  
comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based  
on image data;

5 a memory which stores at least one message and detailed  
information concerning at least one said message;

a display section which displays a displayed message, which  
is stored in the memory, and a setting window for setting at  
least one condition for formation of the image;

10 a control section which controls the display section; and  
an operating section including a help key which is operable  
by a user to instruct the display section to display a help  
message thereon;

15 wherein if the displayed message displayed by the display  
section corresponds to the detailed information, the display  
section displays identification information, which indicates that  
the detailed information corresponding to the displayed message  
is available for display, together with the displayed message;

20 wherein the control section causes the display section to  
display the detailed information of the displayed message as the  
help message if the help key is operated while the identification  
information is displayed on the display section; and

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25 wherein the control section causes the display section to display detailed information concerning the setting window as the help message if the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on the display section.

2. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control section recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in said memory, when controlling said display section to display the displayed message.

3. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 2, wherein said memory stores correspondence information which indicates that the detailed information concerning the at least one message is stored in correspondence with the at least one message, and said control section recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in said memory based on the correspondence information.

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 2, wherein to display a help message, said control section changes display contents on said display section when said operating section is operated.

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Claims 5-7 (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein said memory stores the detailed information concerning the setting window in correspondence with information concerning the setting window, and said control section  
5 recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the setting window is stored in said memory, when the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on said display section, and controls said display section to display the detailed information concerning the setting window,  
10 when it is recognized that the detailed information concerning the setting window is stored in said memory.

9. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the displayed message and the detailed information concerning the displayed message respectively comprise an operation instruction for the user and details of the  
5 operation instruction, and said control section controls said display section to display the details of the operation instruction when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed together with the operation instruction on said display section.

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10. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the displayed message and the detailed information concerning the displayed message respectively comprise a message stating that image printing cannot be started and details indicating that the image forming cannot be started, and said control section controls said display section to display the details indicating that the image forming cannot be started, when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed together with the message stating that the image forming cannot be started on said display section.

11. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

a memory which stores a first message for indicating that image formation cannot be started and detailed information concerning the first message;

a display section which displays the first message, when the image formation cannot be started, and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image;

a control section which controls the display section; and

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an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message thereon;

15        wherein when the help key is operated while the first message indicating that the image formation cannot be started is displayed on the display section, said control section controls said display section to display the detailed information concerning the first message as the help message, and when the  
20        help key is operated while the first message indicating that the image formation cannot be started cannot be started is not displayed on said display section, said control section controls the display section to display detailed information concerning the setting window as the help message.

12. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

5        a memory which stores a first message that includes an operating instruction for a user and detailed information concerning the operating instruction;

a display section which displays the first message and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation  
10        of the image;

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a control section which controls the display section; and  
an operating section including a help key which is operable  
by the user to instruct the display section to display a help  
message thereon;

15 wherein when the help key is operated while the first  
message that includes the operation instruction for the user is  
displayed on said display section, said control section controls  
the display section to display the detailed information of the  
operating instruction as the help message; and

20 wherein when the help key is operated while the first  
message that includes the operation instruction is not displayed  
on the display section, the control section controls the display  
section to display detailed information concerning the setting  
window as the help message.

13. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus  
comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based  
on image data;

5 a memory which stores at least one message and detailed  
information concerning at least one said message;

a display section which displays a displayed message, which  
is stored in the memory, and a setting window for setting at  
least one condition for formation of the image;

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- 10 a control section which controls the display section; and  
an operating section including a help key which is operable  
by a user to instruct the display section to display a help  
message thereon;
- wherein when the detailed information concerning the  
15 displayed message displayed on said display section is stored in  
said memory, said control section controls the display section to  
display the detailed information concerning the displayed message  
as the help message when the help key is operated, and  
wherein when no detailed information concerning the  
20 displayed message displayed on the display section is stored in  
the memory, the control section controls said display section to  
display detailed information concerning the setting window as the  
help message.

Claims 14-19 (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) A display control method for an  
image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and  
an operating section including a help key which is operable by a  
user to instruct the display section to display a help message,  
5 said method comprising:  
controlling the display section to display details of a  
message, which indicates that image formation cannot be started,

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as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message is displayed on the display section; and

10       controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message indicating that the image formation cannot be started is not  
15       displayed on the display section.

21. (Previously Presented) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message,  
5       said method comprising:

controlling the display section to display details of an operation instruction for the user as the help message, when the help key is operated while a message that includes the operation instruction for the user is displayed on the display section; and

10       controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the message that includes the operation instruction is not displayed on the  
15       display section.



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22. (Previously Presented) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message,

5 said method comprising:

displaying a message together with identification information indicating that detailed information concerning the message are available for display, when the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in the memory;

10 controlling the display section to display the detailed information concerning the message as the help message when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed on the display section; and

15 controlling the display section to display detailed information concerning a setting window, which is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an image, as the help message, when the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on the display section.

23. (New) A display control method for an image forming apparatus including a memory, a display section and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to

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instruct the display section to display a help message, said

5 method comprising:

if the help key is operated while a message is displayed on  
the display screen that corresponds detailed information stored  
in the memory, causing the display screen to display the detailed  
information as the help message; and

10 if the help key is operated while a message is displayed on  
the display screen that does not correspond to any detailed  
information stored in the memory, causing the display screen to  
display detailed information concerning a setting window, which  
is used for setting at least one condition for formation of an  
15 image, as the help message.